PCB HFS 13-03 ORIGINAL YEAR A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to mental health first aid; creating 3 s. 394.909, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children 4 and Families to establish the Mental Health First Aid 5 Training Program; providing for a Mental Health First 6 Aid course to be offered by Behavior Health Managing 7 Entities or other community providers to help the 8 public respond to signs of mental illnesses and 9 substance use disorders; providing course requirements; requiring the department to establish 10 certification requirements for instructors of the 11 12 first aid course; requiring the department to adopt rules; providing an effective date. 13 14 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 16 Section 1. Section 394.909, Florida Statutes, is created 17 to read: 18 19 394.909 Mental health first aid.-20 (1) The Department of Children and Families shall establish a Mental Health First Aid Training Program to help the 21 22 public identify and understand the signs of mental illnesses and 23 substance use disorders and to give the public key skills to 24 help someone who is developing or experiencing a mental health 25 or substance use problem. 26 (2) The program shall provide for an interactive, 12-hour 27 Mental Health First Aid training course through contracts with 28 Behavioral Health Managing Entities or other appropriate

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29	community providers.	The contracting entity shall work	
30	cooperatively with l	ocal school districts to give first	priority
31	for training to the staff in public schools as appropriate.		
32	(3) The mental health first aid training shall consists of		
33	the following:		
34	(a) An overview of mental illnesses and substance use		
35	disorders and the need to reduce the stigma of mental illness.		
36	(b) Information on the potential risk factors and warning		
37	signs of mental illnesses or substance use disorders, including		
38	depression, anxiety, psychosis, eating disorders, and self-		
39	injury, and common treatments.		
40	(c) An action plan that encompasses the skills, resources,		
41	and knowledge to assess the situation, select and implement		
42	appropriate interventions, and help an individual with		
43	appropriate professional, peer, social, or self-help care.		
44	(4) The department shall establish certification		
45	requirements for instructors of the Mental Health First Aid		
46	course.		
47	(5) The department may adopt rules to implement the Mental		
48	Health First Aid Program.		
49	Section 2. Thi	s act shall take effect July 1, 2013	